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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/934,582

08/23/2001

Doreen D. Jiang

782.1115

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21171 7590 06/02/2005

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

SUITE 700

1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.

WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

CORRIELUS, JEAN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2162

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/934,582	Applicant(s) JIANG ET AL.	
	Examiner Jean M Corrielus	Art Unit 2162	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

HC

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is in response to the RCE filed on February 22, 2005, in which claims 1-26 are presented for further examination.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-26 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection necessitated by amendment.

Drawings

2. This application has been filed with informal drawings that are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 23 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Pickett et al., (hereinafter "Pickett") US Patent no. 6,498,791.

As to claim 23, Pickett discloses the claimed "automatically updating a subscriber directory used to route subscriber messages and comprising number field, a local access and transport area identifier field, network routing address routing address field, and a

Art Unit: 2162

presentation address field” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.60, lines 55-65; col.61, lines 1-17; col.62, lines 2-20; col.64, lines 27-45; fig.42).

As to claim 26, Pickett discloses the claimed “generating an update request responsive to a subscriber information change event in any of plural subscriber information database of respective autonomous voice message systems, and updating a shared centralized subscriber directory used by the messaging systems to route subscriber messages among the plural message system” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.60, lines 55-65; col.61, lines 1-17; col.62, lines 2-20; col.64, lines 27-45; fig.42).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

Art Unit: 2162

7. Claims 1-10, 12-21, and 24-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pickett et al., (hereinafter "Pickett") US Patent No. 6,498,791 and Patel et al., (hereinafter "Patel") US Patent no. 6,681,257.

As to claim 1, Pickett discloses a system that allow a broad set of services and functions to co-exist in the same system, and leveraging shared resources while providing a high level interface and intelligence that allows for the shared resources to be dynamically allocated. In particular, Pickett discloses the claimed "generating an update request in response to an event that changes subscriber information in a subscriber database messaging system" (col.17, lines 34-53); and "when the update request is generated, automatically updating corresponding subscriber information in the shared central subscriber directory based on the update request" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5). Pickett does not explicitly disclose the use of different autonomous telephony messaging systems. On the other hand, Patel discloses a computer implemented method for providing information for a routing of messages between or among messaging platforms in a messaging system by moving messaging platform to different messaging platform (col.2, lines 50-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because one having ordinary skill in the would have found it motivated to utilize such a combination in order to provide Pickett' system the enhanced capability of allowing routing information to be obtained regarding the subscribers of the messaging systems.

Art Unit: 2162

As to claim 7, Pickett discloses a system that allow a broad set of services and functions to co-exist in the same system, and leveraging shared resources while providing a high level interface and intelligence that allows for the shared resources to be dynamically allocated. In particular, Pickett discloses the claimed “generating an update request for updating the shared subscriber directory server when one of subscriber actions and administrator actions update subscriber information in the voice messaging system” (col.17, lines 34-53); “appending the update request to a queue managed by an update server and in a same order as one of corresponding subscriber actions and corresponding administrator actions occur; reading the update requests, from the queue on a first-in first-out basis” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5); “reading the update from the queue on a first in first out basis” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35); “sending the update requests to the shared Subscriber directory server” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35); and “updating the shared subscriber directory server in real-time based on the update request, whereby the updated subscriber information becomes accessible by the message system to route subscriber messages” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35). Pickett does not explicitly disclose the use of different autonomous telephony messaging systems. On the other hand, Patel discloses a computer implemented method for providing information for a routing of messages between or among messaging platforms in a messaging system by moving messaging platform to different messaging platform (col.2, lines 50-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because one having ordinary skill in the would have found it

Art Unit: 2162

motivated to utilize such a combination in order to provide Pickett' system the enhanced capability of allowing routing information to be obtained regarding the subscribers of the messaging systems.

As to claim 2, Pickett discloses the claimed “ storing the update event at an intermediate server while maintaining synchronicity between the update event and the local messaging system” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35).

As to claim 3, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said generating occurs only when information changed in the message box has corresponding information in the shared central subscriber directory” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35).

As to claim 4, Pickett discloses the claimed “sending the update request from the intermediate server to a proxy client that in turn sends the update request to the shared central subscriber director” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 5, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said generating and updating is performed by a plurality of messaging systems that also access the shared central subscriber directory” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63).

As to claim 6, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is responsive to a change to a message box initiated by a subscriber telephone call” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63).

As to claim 8, Pickett discloses the claimed “refreshing subscriber information in the update requests, after said reading and before said sending, in accordance with current corresponding subscriber information in the voice messaging system, when the update requests are one of expired and in a queue not primarily associated with the voice messaging system having the subscriber information” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 9, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said appending, reading, sending and refreshing are performed by an intermediate server managing the queue, and said generating occurs at one of an application process, an administrative utility, and a bulk data upload utility” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 10, Pickett discloses “wherein the bulk data upload utility generates update requests for one of ranges of message boxes in the voice messaging system, all message boxes in the voice messaging system, and ranges of message boxes in the voice

Art Unit: 2162

messaging system” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 12, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein the subscriber directory resides in a remote, foreign addressing domain and is shared by messaging systems from different vendors” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35).

As to claim 13, Pickett discloses the claimed “appending the update request to a queue of a second art update server when a primary update server is unavailable”(col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 14, Pickett discloses the claimed “reading from a second update server the update requests in the queue responsive to a failure impairing the update server” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

Art Unit: 2162

As to claim 15, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein the subscriber action comprises a telephone call that updates the message box of the subscriber”. (Col.7, lines 40-col.8, line 64).

As to claim 16, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein one of subscriber actions and administrator actions comprises one of creating a message box, deleting a message box, modifying a message box, suspending a message box, reinstating a message box, reinitializing a message box, and migrating a message box from a first voice messaging system to a second voice messaging system” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claim 17, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is triggered in an application corresponding to one of the subscriber action and the administrator action” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63).

As to claim 18, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein the application corresponding to one of the subscriber action and the administrator action resumes processing immediately after said generating”(col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

Art Unit: 2162

As to claim 19, Pickett discloses the claimed “wherein said generating is responsive to a change to a message box initiated by a subscriber telephone call” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35; col.42, lines 45-63; col.43, lines 47-65; col.44, lines 20-65; 46, lines 48-62; col.48, lines 13-50; col.53, lines 5-45; col.60, lines 40-53).

As to claims 20-21, Pickett discloses the claimed “determining whether name announcements are attributes of subscriber information that are updated on the shared directory server” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35).

As to claim 24, Pickett discloses a system that allow a broad set of services and functions to co-exist in the same system, and leveraging shared resources while providing a high level interface and intelligence that allows for the shared resources to be dynamically allocated. In particular, Pickett discloses the claimed “generating an update request in response to an event that changes subscriber information in a subscriber database messaging system” (col.17, lines 34-53); and “when the update request is generated, automatically updating corresponding subscriber information in the shared central subscriber directory based on the update request” (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5). Pickett does not explicitly disclose the use of different autonomous telephony messaging systems. On the other hand, Patel discloses a computer implemented method for providing information for a routing of messages between or among messaging platforms in a messaging system by moving messaging platform to different messaging platform (col.2, lines 50-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious

Art Unit: 2162

to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because one having ordinary skill in the would have found it motivated to utilize such a combination in order to provide Pickett' system the enhanced capability of allowing routing information to be obtained regarding the subscribers of the messaging systems.

As to claim 25, Pickett discloses a system that allow a broad set of services and functions to co-exist in the same system, and leveraging shared resources while providing a high level interface and intelligence that allows for the shared resources to be dynamically allocated. In particular, Pickett discloses the claimed "generating an update request in response to an event that changes subscriber information in a subscriber database messaging system" (col.17, lines 34-53); and "when the update request is generated, automatically updating corresponding subscriber information in the shared central subscriber directory based on the update request" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5). Pickett does not explicitly disclose the use of different autonomous telephony messaging systems. On the other hand, Patel discloses a computer implemented method for providing information for a routing of messages between or among messaging platforms in a messaging system by moving messaging platform to different messaging platform (col.2, lines 50-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because one having ordinary skill in the would have found it motivated to utilize such a combination in order to provide Pickett' system the

Art Unit: 2162

enhanced capability of allowing routing information to be obtained regarding the subscribers of the messaging systems.

8. Claims 11 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Pickett et al., (hereinafter "Pickett") US Patent No. 6,498,791 and Patel et al., (hereinafter "Patel") US Patent no. 6,681,257 and Bedingfield et al., (hereinafter "Bedingfield") US Patent no. 6,882,708.

As to claims 11 and 22, Pickett discloses a system that allow a broad set of services and functions to co-exist in the same system, and leveraging shared resources while providing a high level interface and intelligence that allows for the shared resources to be dynamically allocated. In particular, Pickett discloses the claimed "generating an update request for updating the shared subscriber directory server when one of subscriber actions and administrator actions update subscriber information in the voice messaging system" (col.17, lines 34-53); "appending the update request to a queue managed by an update server and in a same order as one of corresponding subscriber actions and corresponding administrator actions occur; reading the update requests, from the queue on a first-in first-out basis" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5); "reading the update from the queue on a first in first out basis" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35); "sending the update requests to the shared Subscriber directory server" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18, lines 35); and "updating the shared subscriber directory server in real-time based on the update request, whereby the updated subscriber information becomes accessible by the message system to route subscriber messages" (col.17, lines 34-53; col.17, lines 57-col.18, line 5; col.18,

Art Unit: 2162

lines 35). Pickett does not explicitly disclose the use of different autonomous telephony messaging systems. On the other hand, Patel discloses a computer implemented method for providing information for a routing of messages between or among messaging platforms in a messaging system by moving messaging platform to different messaging platform (col.2, lines 50-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of the cited references because one having ordinary skill in the would have found it motivated to utilize such a combination in order to provide Pickett' system the enhanced capability of allowing routing information to be obtained regarding the subscribers of the messaging systems. Neither Pickett nor Patel a server directory that uses Lightweight directory access protocol. Bedingfield discloses a messaging server interface with another directory server such as LDAP protocol directory server available from various suppliers configures to hold directory information. In particular, Bedingfield discloses a server directory that uses Lightweight directory access protocol (col.5, lines 33-45, lines 59-66; col.6, lines 6-10, lines 37-55). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the combined system Pickett and Patel by incorporating in the server directory of Pickett the use of Lightweight directory access protocol, in the same conventional manner as disclosed by Bedingfield (col.5, lines 33-45, lines 59-66; col.6, lines 6-10, lines 37-55). One having ordinary skill in the art would have found it obvious to utilize such a modification for the purpose of providing messaging subscribers a convenient and reliable way of exchanging information with other users of the region.

Art Unit: 2162

Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean M Corrielus whose telephone number is (571) 272-4032. The examiner can normally be reached on 10 hours shift.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Breene can be reached on (571) 272-4107. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Jean M Corrielus
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2162

May 20, 2005